

KEYSTONE Ag Digest

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Highlights

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The Keystone Ag Digest may be found on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/agdigest.htm>

HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 1,090,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms on March 1, 2002. This estimated inventory was 60,000 head above the previous year's inventory. Market hog inventory, at 960,000 head, increased 30,000 head since December 2001; while breeding stock inventory, at 130,000 head, remained the same as in December 2001 but increased by 10,000 from March of 2001. The December 2001-February 2002 pig crop totaled 466,000 head, an increase of 17,000 head from March a year earlier however, down 18,000 head from December 2001. There were 53,000 sows farrowed during the quarter, down 2,000 head from the previous year. The average litter rate was 8.80 pigs per litter which remained the same compared to March the previous year and December of last year.

Pennsylvania hog farmers intend to have 53,000 sows farrow during the March-May 2002 period and for the June-August quarter, 1,000 more

than actually farrowed in March-May of last year and 1,000 less than a year ago for June-August actual farrowings.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2002, was 58.7 million head. This was 2 percent above March 2001, but 1 percent below December 1, 2001. Breeding inventory, at 6.24 million head, was up slightly from both March 1, 2001, and last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 52.5 million head, was 2 percent above last year but 1 percent below last quarter.

The December 2001-February 2002 U.S. pig crop, at 24.7 million head, was 3 percent more than 2001, and 1 percent more than 2000. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.83 million head, 3 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 46 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.73 pigs saved per litter for the December 2001-February 2002 period, compared to 8.72 pigs last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.30 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 8.80 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.90 million sows farrow during the March-May 2002 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2001, and slightly above 2000. Intended farrowings for June-August 2002, at 2.90 million sows, are 1 percent above the same period in 2001, and up slightly from 2000. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 31 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, down from 32 percent last year.

This issue contains results of the March Agricultural Survey. We wish to thank the many Pennsylvania farmers who helped make these results possible.

HOGS & PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBER, MARCH 1, 2001-2002

Item	Pennsylvania			United States		
	2001	2002	2002/01	2001	2002	2002/01
	(000) Head		Percent	(000) Head		Percent
Inventory - March 1:						
All Hogs & Pigs	1,030	1,090	106	57,524	58,698	102
Kept For Breeding	120	130	108	6,232	6,236	100
Market	910	960	105	51,292	52,461	102
Market Hogs & Pigs By Weight Groups:						
Under 60 Pounds	335	345	103	18,737	19,381	103
60-119 Pounds	240	255	106	12,417	12,730	103
120-179 Pounds	185	200	108	10,805	10,914	101
180 Pounds and Over	150	160	107	9,334	9,436	101
Sows Farrowing:						
December ¹ -February	51	53	104	2,748	2,832	103
March-May	52	² 53	102	2,870	² 2,896	101
June-August	54	² 53	98	2,878	² 2,896	101
Pig Crop:						
December ¹ -February	449	466	104	23,963	24,711	103
	Number					
Pigs Per Litter:						
December ¹ -February	8.80	8.80	100	8.72	8.73	100

¹ December preceding year. ² Intentions.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP SHARPLY FROM LAST MONTH

The preliminary Prices Received by Farmers Index for All Farm Products in March was 106, using a 1990-92=100 base period, up 7 points (7.1 percent) from the February index. A record price for lettuce, along with other increases for eggs, cattle, and tomatoes, more than offset decreased prices for broilers, milk, hogs, and broccoli. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher marketings for strawberries, lettuce, milk, and tomatoes

more than offset decreased marketings of cattle, oranges, corn, and cotton.

Compared with March 2001, the Prices Received Index was up 2 points (1.9 percent). Higher prices for lettuce, strawberries, potatoes, and apples more than offset lower prices for broilers, hogs, cattle, and tomatoes. The Food Commodities Index increased 9.0 percent over last month and was 3.8 percent above March, 2001.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, MARCH 2002

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Mar 2001	Feb 2002	Mar 2002 ¹	Mar 2001	Feb 2002	Mar 2002 ¹
<i>Dollars</i>							
Corn	Bu.	2.30	2.36	2.29	1.96	1.93	1.92
Wheat, Winter ²	Bu.	-	-	-	2.85	2.75	2.76
Oats	Bu.	1.62	1.83	1.84	1.24	1.91	1.97
Barley ²	Bu.	-	-	-	2.07	2.21	2.26
Hay, Dry All	Ton	99.00	125.00	118.00	90.10	90.40	91.40
Dry Alfalfa	Ton	114.00	142.00	138.00	95.00	99.50	98.80
Dry Other	Ton	88.00	109.00	108.00	75.10	70.80	73.00
Apples, Fresh Use	Lb.	.210	.210	.140	.146	.214	.210
Potatoes	Cwt.	8.90	8.85	8.85	5.12	7.60	8.29
Cows, Slaughter	Cwt.	43.00	41.80	42.30	42.30	40.60	42.40
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	76.80	69.20	70.00	80.50	73.60	75.30
Calves	Cwt.	115.00	115.00	117.00	112.00	105.00	104.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	42.40	37.90	36.80	46.50	39.00	36.60
Sows	Cwt.	31.70	26.50	27.20	34.70	27.80	30.10
Eggs, ³	Doz.	.580	.440	.580	.518	.366	.515
Milk, Fluid Grade	Cwt.	15.70	14.90	-	13.90	13.10	12.70
Manufactured Grade ..	Cwt.	12.40	12.30	-	12.20	12.00	11.30
All	Cwt.	15.70	14.90	14.50	13.90	13.10	12.70
Milk Cows ⁴	Head	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Preliminary. ² Price not published on monthly basis, average price is published annually. ³ Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. ⁴ Quarterly (Jan., Apr., July, Oct.).

PENNSYLVANIA APPLES IN COLD STORAGE, FEBRUARY 28, 2002

Variety	February 28, 2001					February 28, 2002				
	Fresh Market ¹		Processing		Total	Fresh Market ¹		Processing		Total
	Reg.	C.A.	Reg.	C.A.		Reg.	C.A.	Reg.	C.A.	
	<i>(1,000) Bushels</i>									
York	0	0	414	533	947	29	0	692	643	1,364
Stayman	1	9	15	23	48	5	14	25	55	99
Rome	4	59	290	483	836	11	58	309	501	879
Red Delicious ...	15	318	89	62	484	65	375	173	49	662
Golden Delicious	2	86	501	507	1,096	3	134	535	555	1,227
Jonathan	0	0	6	0	6	0	0	16	0	16
McIntosh	2	2	0	11	15	2	2	0	0	4
Cortland	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Other ²	43	45	107	94	289	80	64	135	237	516
Total	69	519	1,422	1,713	3,723	195	647	1,885	2,040	4,767

¹ Includes total quantities on hand; graded and ungraded, packed or loose on the last day of the month specified. ² Includes miscellaneous varieties and some quantities of above varieties not identified.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 28, 2002

Apples in cold storage reported by cold storage warehouses for Pennsylvania totaled 4,767,000 bushels on February 28, 2002, compared to 3,723,000 bushels on February 28, 2001. The three varieties with the largest fresh market and processing reported stocks in bushels were: York with 1,364,000; Golden Delicious with 1,227,000; and Rome with 879,000 bushels.

Total apple stocks in Pennsylvania totaled 200,251,000 pounds on February 28, 2002, compared to 158,561,000 pounds on February 28, 2001. Pear stocks in cold storage decreased from previous year's stocks of 374,000 pounds to 136,000 pounds on February 28, 2002.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

Pennsylvania farmers intend to plant more acres of wheat, soybeans, sorghum, tobacco and harvest more hay in 2002. Intentions to plant barley, oats and corn are down for the 2002 season. All wheat, at 190,000 acres, is up 12 percent from last year, but 5 percent below the 2000 planted acres. Expected barley planted acreage is 65,000, down 7 percent from 2001 and 15,000 acres less than were planted in 2000. Expected oats planted acreage is 145,000, down 3 percent from 2001 and 30,000 acres less than two years ago. Expected oats acreage for harvest is 115,000, is unchanged from last year, but 21 percent below two years ago. For row crops, intended plantings of corn for all purposes are 1,450,000 acres, down 10,000 acres or 3 percent from last year and 100,000 acres below two years ago. Soybean planted acreage is intended to be 415,000, 1 percent more than the 410,000 planted last year and 25,000 more acres than two years ago. Farmers also intend to plant 15,000 acres of sorghum in 2002, which is up 36 percent or 4,000 acres from last year. Intentions are to harvest 1400 acres of Southern Maryland-type tobacco, 27 percent more acreage than a year ago. Pennsylvania seedleaf type tobacco harvested acreage is expected to be 2,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Harvest intentions for all hay in 2002 is 1,700,000 acres, up 3 percent from last year's harvest, but 100,000 acres below the all hay acreage of 2000.

Farmers in the United States intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2002, up 4 percent from 2001 but down 1 percent from 2000. Expected acreage is up in many areas of the United States and virtually all areas of the Corn Belt. Compared to last year when producers had problems getting their crops in due to persistent precipitation, conditions so far this year have been cooperative and have increased farmer's hopes of planting their corn crop on time. Farmers intend to plant fewer corn acres than last year in Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Colorado because of concerns about dry conditions. Soybean producers intend to plant 73.0 million acres in 2002, down 2 percent from last year. Reduced soybean acreage was offset by an expected increase in corn plantings in most areas. Crop rotations, farm bill uncertainty, and price considerations were cited as primary reasons for the reduced soybean acreage. Producers in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas intend to shift from cotton to soybeans. Expected acreage in North Dakota is up 450,000 acres from last year replacing wheat acreage. Sorghum plantings are expected to total 9.02 million acres, down 12 percent from last year. All wheat planted area is expected to total 59.0 million acres in 2002. This is down 1 percent from 2001 and the lowest level

since 1972. Barley producers intend to plant 5.1 million acres in 2002, up 2 percent from last year. Hay acreage harvested is expected to be 63.7 million, unchanged from last year's harvest. Oat producers intend to plant 5.1 million acres this year, up 16 percent from the 4.4 million acres planted in 2001. Oat producers expect to harvest 2.5 million acres, 33 percent more than in 2001. All tobacco growers intend to harvest 429,410 acres in 2002, down 1 percent from the 432,640 acres harvested in 2001.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

Crop	Area Planted			
	2000	2001	Ind 2002	2002/01
	(000) Acres			Percent
Corn				
PA	1,550	1,500	1,450	97
US	79,551	75,752	79,047	104
All Wheat ¹				
PA	200	170	190	112
US	62,629	59,617	59,004	99
Oats ¹				
PA	175	150	145	97
US	4,477	4,403	5,129	116
Barley ¹				
PA	80	70	65	93
US	5,864	4,967	5,078	102
Soybeans				
PA	390	410	415	101
US	74,266	74,105	72,966	98
Sorghum				
PA	13	11	15	136
US	9,195	10,252	9,015	88
Dry All Hay ²				
PA	1,800	1,650	1,700	103
US	59,854	63,511	63,743	100
All Tobacco ²				
PA	5.1	3.1	3.4	110
US	472.4	432.6	429.4	99

¹ Includes area planted in preceding fall. ² Area harvested.

GRAIN STOCKS

Pennsylvania's corn stored in all positions on March 1, 2002 was 47.9 million bushels, down 29 percent from March 1, 2001. On-farm corn stocks amounted to 41.0 million bushels, while off-farm stocks were 6.9 million bushels. Wheat stored off farms totaled 7.0 million bushels. Soybeans stored off farms totaled 2.3 million bushels. Barley stored off farms was 563 thousand bushels. On-farm oat stocks totaled 3.0 million bushels, and off-farm stocks were 676 thousand bushels. Pennsylvania's on-farm stocks of wheat, soybeans and barley are not published separately, but instead are included with an unallocated national total.

Nationally, corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2002 were estimated at 5.80 billion bushels, 4 percent less than on March 1, 2001. On-farm stocks totaled 3.36 billion bushels, down 7 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks were 2.44 billion bushels, down slightly from the previous year. All wheat stocks in all positions on March 1, 2002 are estimated at 1.21 billion bushels, down 10 percent from a year ago. Wheat stored on farms was 339 million

bushels, while off-farm stocks totaled 872 million bushels, down 9 percent from a year ago.

Soybeans in all storage positions on March 1, 2002 totaled 1.34 billion bushels, down 5 percent from March 1, 2001. On-farm stocks totaled 687 million bushels, down 12 percent from the same period a year ago. Off-farm stocks are placed at 649 million bushels, 4 percent higher than March 1, 2001. Barley stored in all positions on March 1, 2002 totaled 142 million bushels, 13 percent below stocks a year ago. On-farm stocks totaled 46.0 million bushels, 22 percent below a year earlier. Off-farm stocks were 95.7 million bushels, 8 percent below last year. Oats stored in all positions on March 1, 2002, totaled 92.8 million bushels, 16 percent below the stocks on March 1, 2001. Of the total oat stocks on hand, 39.8 million bushels are stored on farms, 29 percent below last year. Off-farm stocks totaled 53.0 million bushels, 2 percent below a year earlier.

PENNSYLVANIA & UNITED STATES: GRAIN STOCKS - MARCH 1, 2002 WITH COMPARISON

Grain	Year	Pennsylvania			United States		
		On Farms	Off Farms ¹	Total All Positions	On Farms	Off Farms ¹	Total All Positions
(000) Bushel							
Corn	2001	59,000	8,425	67,425	3,600,000	2,442,999	6,042,999
	2002	41,000 ₂	6,938	47,938 ₂	3,355,000	2,441,473	5,796,473
Wheat	2001		7,362		384,750	953,648	1,338,398
	2002	₂	7,012	₂	338,500	872,223	1,210,723
Soybeans	2001	₂	2,054	₂	780,000	623,908	1,403,908
	2002	₂	2,283	₂	687,000	648,976	1,335,976
Barley	2001	₂	672	₂	58,600	103,544	162,144
	2002	₂	563	₂	46,000	95,742	141,742
Oats	2001	3,400	738	4,138	55,800	54,128	109,928
	2002	3,000	676	3,676	39,800	52,997	92,797

¹ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. ² Included in U.S. totals.

MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Feb 2001	Jan 2002	Feb 2002	Feb 2001	Jan 2002	Feb 2002
Layers	Thous.	24,496	23,938	23,656	335,813	338,265	336,896
Eggs Per 100 Layers	Number	2,111	2,293	2,114	1,943	2,142	1,946
Eggs Produced	Million	517	549	500	6,524	7,245	6,557
Chick Hatch-Egg Type	Thous.	5,467	4,540	4,094	38,198	35,533	34,326
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type	Thous.	11,665	13,264	11,171	670,498	775,669	702,576
Poults Placed	Thous.	-	-	-	23,775	25,880	24,266

EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production in Pennsylvania during February 2002 totaled 500 million eggs, a decrease of 3 percent from the 517 million produced in 2001. The total number of layers averaged 23.7 million during February, compared with 24.5 million one year earlier. Production per 100 layers was 2,114 eggs during the month, compared with 2,111 eggs in February 2001. Egg-type chicks hatched during February 2002 totaled 4.1 million, down 25 percent from the 5.5 million hatched the previous February. Broiler-type chicks hatched totaled 11.2 million during February 2002, down 4 percent from the 11.7 million hatched the same month last year.

The Nation's laying flocks produced 6.56 billion eggs during February 2002, up 1 percent from a year ago. The total number of layers during February averaged 337 million, slightly higher than the average number of layers during February 2001. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,946 eggs, up slightly from the 1,943 eggs in February 2001. Egg-type chicks hatched in the United States during February totaled 34.3 million, down 10 percent from February 2001. Broiler-type hatch totaled 703 million, 5 percent more than the previous February. There were 24.3 million turkey poults placed in the United States during February 2002, up 2 percent from the placements during the same month a year ago.

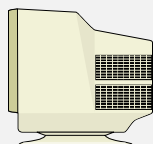
COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, FEB 2002

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Red Meat Prod	Mil. Lbs.	93.2	3,501
Cattle	Thous. Hd.	75.2	2,615
	Mil. Lbs. Live	96.7	3,282
Calves	Thous. Hd.	11.9	73
	Mil. Lbs. Live	4.6	24
Hogs	Thous. Hd.	197.1	7,500
	Mil. Lbs. Live	49.6	2,000
Sheep & Lambs	Thous. Hd.	4.6	256
	Mil. Lbs. Live	.5	35

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in Pennsylvania during February 2002 totaled 93.2 million pounds, up 12 percent from February 2001. Beef production, at 96.7 million pounds live weight, was up 11 percent from February 2001. Total head slaughtered was 75,200, up 11 percent; and live weight averaged 1,286 pounds, an increase of 6 pounds. Veal slaughter was 4.65 million pounds live weight, down 4 percent. Calf slaughter of 11,900 head was 5 percent less than last year. Average live weight increased 4 pounds to 389 pounds. Pork production was 49.6 million pounds live weight, up 12 percent from 2001. Total head slaughtered was 197,100, an increase of 4.5 percent from last year. Live weight averaged 251 pounds, 16 pounds heavier than last year. Lamb and mutton slaughter was 499,000 pounds live weight, up 58 percent. The number slaughtered was 4,600, up 48 percent. The average live weight increased 7 pounds to 109 pounds.

County estimates for 2001 can now be found online for barley, oats, wheat, corn, soybeans, sorghum and hay. Check out NASS's homepage at www.usda.gov/nass/ (click on 'On-line DATABASE')



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